

Amended Specification**Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1, before line 1, insert "This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial Number 09/528,263, filed March 17, 2000, entitled DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM INCLUDING A COMPACT EASILY-EXTENSIBLE AND SERVICEABLE FIELD CONTROLLER," which is a continuation of U.S. Serial Number 09/443,774, filed November 19, 1999, entitled "DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM INCLUDING A COMPACT EASILY-EXTENSIBLE AND SERVICEABLE FIELD CONTROLLER," which is a continuation of 08/560,167, filed November 18, 1999, entitled "DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM INCLUDING A COMPACT EASILY-EXTENSIBLE AND SERVICEABLE FIELD CONTROLLER," which is a continuation (CPA) of U.S. Serial Number 08/560,167, filed November 20, 1995, entitled "DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM INCLUDING A COMPACT EASILY-EXTENSIBLE AND SERVICEABLE FIELD CONTROLLER," which claims the benefit of priority of U.S. Serial Number 60/005,279, filed October 10, 1995, entitled "DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM INCLUDING A COMPACT EASILY-EXTENSIBLE AND SERVICEABLE FIELD CONTROLLER."